Meeting on problems faced by exporters

3854. SHRI C.RAMACHANDRAIAH. Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting was held at New Delhi in the second week of July, 2001 between the Minister and Chairmen of Export Councils and other exporters to discuss the problems faced by the latter in the sphere of export of Indian goods and in meeting export targets in global trade;

(b) if so, the details of the specific problems faced by exporters as enunciated at the said meeting; and suggestions made by them in this regard; and

(c) the details of the measures proposed to be taken by Government to solve problems of exporters and mitigate their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A meeting was convened on 10th July, 2001 by the Commerce and Industry Minister with Chairmen of Export Promotion Councils and select exporters regarding export prospects for the current year. The participants raised various issues like export credit exchange rate, duty drawback and import of capital goods for export production and the procedural requirements. While most issues have been resolved, those having revenue implications have been referred to the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

TRIPS Agreement

3855. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is also one of the signatories of 46 developing countries which have tabled paper appealing the Ministerial Conference to ensure that their legitimate right to formulate their own public health policies is protected and that the TRIPS accord does not undermine it;

(b) if so, whether they have been demanding that those provisions of the TRIPS Agreement which does not conform with their demands should be modified;

(c) if so, the main decisions arrived at the WTO on this issue; and

(d) whether India alongwith other countries also proposed this move ?